Boot party

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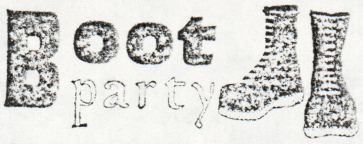
SKINHEAD MAGAZINE • ISSUE NUMBER 5



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PRICES: $2.00 cash post paid (U.S.)
$3.00 cash post paid (World)

SUBSCRIPTIONS: $8.00 cash for next 4 issues (U.S.)
$12.00 cash for next 4 issues (World)

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DISCLAIMER: The opinions expressed by the bands interviewed and the articles submitted do not necessarily reflect those of the staff. This fanzine is non-political, non-racist and non-SHARP. Its purpose is to be an informative resource for people interested in Skinhead-related music.

SEND ANY LETTERS, NEWS, ARTWORK, PHOTOS, ETC. TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS

Welcome to issue five of BOOT PARTY. Alot has happened here at B.P. since last time, some good, some bad. First the bad news: Mike, our resident computer wizard, Lost his job. He has a new one now, but no longer has access to a laser-printer which means he is unable to do any work for us at the moment. We sincerly thank him for his help and support and hope he can rejoin us soon. Secondly, a page to the BAD MANNERS interview disappeared which is why there is a gap in the conversation. When it rains it pours right?!? As for the good news, BOOT PARTY seems to be going from strength to strength. Our circulation has nearly doubled in the last two issues and judging by all the mail we receive alot of you appreciate our efforts. That makes us feel really good and we hope to further improve the quality of our product in future issues.

See ya next time.

The Boot Party Crew

THANKS TO: Sean & Ray, Grant, Brian, Kathy and the St. Louis posse, Pit (Headache Records & THE WRETCHED ONES), Mike (D.C.), Peter Swillen, Shane Stinnard, Olaf & SPRINGTOIFEL, Jeff & STORMWATCH, Buster Bloodvessel (BAD MANNERS), DESMOND DEKKER, THE SCOFFLAWS, Evan (BIOHAZARD), Laurence, Philippe & Franck (Zera), Riton (SPE & WEST SIDE BOYS), Elsa, Philippe (Paris), Kirk (Force Majeure), V. Rice (Moon Records), Todd, all the people we correspond with, the stores that stock our zine and you for buying this issue. Cheers.

News on the Streets

The CRO-MAGS recently played a show in Maryland. Their set was cut short because of the band's disgust toward a group of people shouting rude comments at them. The group of people responsible said they were "Homosexual Skins"

Rumours of an UPRISE reunion have been circulating with many people claiming to be the new singer. None of the original members will acknowledge a reunion happening

STIFF LITTLE FINGERS are currently on tour in the U.S. to promote their latest release "Flags & Emblems

KLASSE KRIMINALE Guitarist Antonella Cavanna has left the band to move to England. She is living with Alex of BATTLEZONE and Last Chance fame and we wish them all the best in the future. KLASSE KRIMINALE plan to continue with drummer Laurent switching to guitar and a new drummer.

SECTION 5 have reformed. They recently played a gig in London with THE ELITE and a one-off band featuring Antonella(ex KLASSE KRIMINALE),Alex(BATTLEZONE),and Charlie(GRADE-1). Mickey Fitz,formerly of THE BUSINESS, joined THE ELITE on stage for renditions of a few old BUSINESS songs and it was a great night out by all accounts.

New Jersey Oi-sters NIBLICK HENBANE lost yet another drummer. They had to cancel some shows because of this, but they are determined to get back on track. They are making plans for an LP. once they find a new member.

THE MADHATTERS were preparing to go in the studio to record a new LP.but their drummer broke his hand in a fight the night before the recording session. Their bassist decided to quit as well, so the record has been delayed.

Two of France's oldest Oi bands SKINCORPS and WARRIOR KIDS have split up.

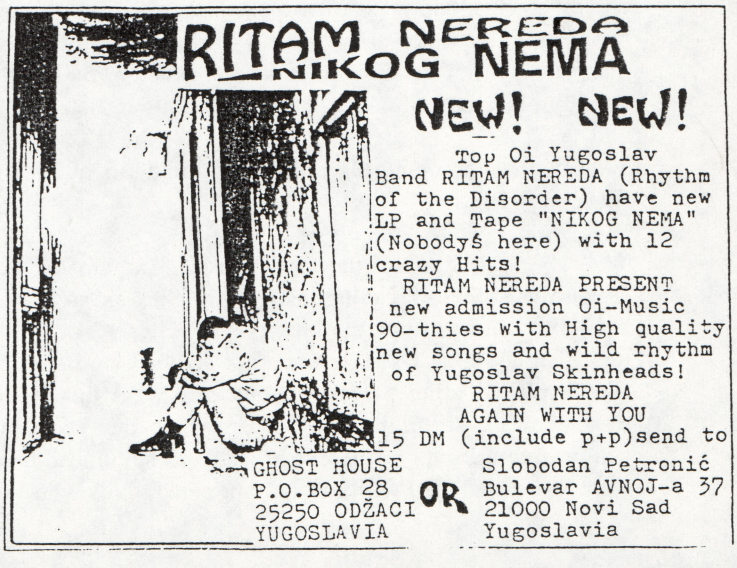
Theres talk of Chicago's first Ska band HEAVY MANNERS reforming. No other information is available at press time.

Chicago Ska band STATE OF EMERGENCY has changed their name to SKAPONE. They will be appearing on a North American Ska compilation that is currently in the works.

In more local news, there are 2 Hardcore bands on the scene with skinheads in their ranks;BOTTLES FLYING and AUDACITY.

POTENTIAL VICTIMS, a new Oi/Skin band from New Jersey, are looking to play out more. For bookings or information, write Tim Miller, 125 Mc.Donald St. Washington,NJ 07882

Street Level Productions is a new promotion agency in the Chicago area. They will hold their first show at the Wrigleyside on April 5th. It will be a Ska show with locals SKAPONE and THE INVADERS from Milwaukee. If all goes well, they plan on doing more shows with Ska,non-political Oi,and Hardcore bands. If any bands in the above catagories would like to contact them for bookings,just write them at our address and we'll pass it on.


RITAM NEREDA
NIKOG NEMA
NEW! NEW!
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21000 Novi Sad
Yugoslavia

BIOHAZARD

Evan, Bassist and vocalist for N.Y.H.C. band BIOHAZARD, was interviewed by Perry before their show with THE EXPLOITED. Drummer Danny was present also. We talked for an hour about many different issues, so it would take the entire issue to print the whole interview. What follows are excerpts from our conversation.

What is BIOHAZARD's current line-up?

Evan: Bass and vocals; Danny: Drums; Billy on rhythm guitar and vocals and Bobby's the lead guitarist.

How long have you been together?

Me and Bobby got together back in 1987. We didn't become BIOHAZARD until 1988. It was me, Bobby and a different drummer. We were hanging out with other New York bands like CARNIVORE and THE CRO-MAGS and we started getting shows. Billy joined right before our first demo, which came out in spring of '88. Our first gig was with PRONG at the Pyramid Club on Ave. A. We did mainly NY shows, then we recorded an album, which is available on LP, cassette and CD. Then we did a European tour with MUCKY PUP, then a US tour with KREATOR. We didn't really fit with either band, but we're not playing music for one crowd, we're playing music for everybody. We did a headlining tour of the US except for the West Coast, and we did Europe again, headlining. After that, we kept playing the big Hardcore scenes, like NY, Boston, New Jersey, Connecticut, etc.

Are all you guys from Brooklyn?

Yes, we're all from Brooklyn, in fact from very closed neighborhoods. Brooklyn's very sectionalized, every neighborhood's like a different city.

How do the crowds in smaller cities react to your music as opposed to cities like NY or Boston?

It depends. We played Green Bay, Wisconsin, and nobody had heard of us. They danced in a circle, which was a little weird. To us, people are people, no matter where you go, no matter what their style is. Our music creates energy. It gets them riled up, and gives them a positive way to release their negative energy.

What are some of your songs about, and how are they constructed?

There's 3 ingredients: it's gotta have that aggressive sound and the beat's gotta make you dance. Most important in some ways, and less apparent in others, are the lyrics. Our lyrics are all about real life. We just write about real things that we see. We've got a song called "Pain" which is about the pain of life that everybody goes through. We've got another song called "Wrong Side of the Tracks" which is about getting caught in the wrong neighborhood or by the wrong people and getting the shit beaten out of you. We've got a new song called "Black, White and Red All Over". It's a double meaning song. It's all about the ignorance of racism and also about how the media exploits racism and makes it worse. The media wins, and the people out on the streets, we loose. All of a sudden people are hostile towards you cuz you're a different color or come from a different place. Not to get off onto too many tangents. We want to make a message, you know? but we don't preach to anybody, because I don't want nobody preaching to me, and nobody wants to listen to that kind of shit. We use our music to communicate.

There's been some highly publicized incidents of racial violence in NY. Has that affected the Hardcore scene there as well?

Well NY is the crux of the melting pot. And alot of the skinheads there are non-white. But what is a skinhead? If you're a skinhead reading this, you might want to ask yourself, what are you? Are you a pure White Aryan race? And if so, do you think that makes you better? You don't see White Power skins much in NY cuz they get beaten up. The last time I saw one, he got stabbed at an AGNOSTIC FRONT show. That shit just doesn't go in NY. We've played other places where that's what they're down with, that's all they know. This is America, and everybody has the right to believe in what they want. I have a different view on the whole thing cuz I'm not a skinhead, but I see how people are. Alot of skinhead bands in NY, the members grew their hair out cuz they don't want to be affiliated with all these new jack kids who are giving the whole thing a bad name. In Europe, people

look at you and if you say you're a skinhead, they automatically think you're a fascist. People seem to know more about politics over there than they do here. A 14 year old kid will talk you blue in the face about Marxism and National Front and things that someone 25 years old will have no idea about over here. WWII happened over there and WWI. They've experienced Communism and Fascism, and they're afraid of it. I met fascist kids over there who were very cool. They like the bands, know what I mean, they're into the music. Everywhere we've been in the world, I've met kids from SHARP which I think is a really cool organization. My friend Marcus started SHARP in NY.

Is SHARP still prominent there?

I can't speak for the whole scene, but when I'm at a club, or walking around St Mark's Place, and I see people walking around, people don't really fly colors in NY. They're basically just being themselves. Alot of kids I know who at one time were wearing boots and braces are dressing like homeboys now, just being themselves. They've gained their identity and they feel comfortable, you know? But there's alot of kids that wear SHARP patches and all kinds of stuff, and that's cool too. Whatever anybody's into, they should be allowed to do, that's freedom of speech. The only thing is, skins get alot of bad press from the media, and people go "oh, I don't want to come to your show, cuz those guys might show up" or "aren't they all nazis?". And I go "well, I'm Jewish, and if they were all nazis, I wouldn't want to hang around those people". I'd find it insulting but as long as they don't put it in my face, that's alright with me. You know, we may all look different, but we're all the same underneath. That's something I learned from the tour in Europe. We played 13 countries: Belgium, France, Holland, I could go on and on. You speak different languages, but when we start playing, the kids start moving, you know. That's what's important.

BILLY DANNY BOBBY EVAN

PHOTO CREDIT FRANK WHITE

BAD MANNERS

Lounge Ax 11/06/91
Interview by Perry & A.C.

This is the band that helped to define that "Nutty" sound of many of today's Ska bands. Along with Madness,the band was a part of the Two-Tone Ska revival that shook Britain and the world in the early '80s. Their popularity never diminished in the years since,and Buster and the boys haven't stopped partying and having fun. The interveiw took place after the band's gig at the Ax.

BP: WHAT DID YOU THINK OF TONIGHT'S SHOW?

DT: Well, we had a few problems with our equipment. The drummer and guitarist had loads of problems,but the crowd was great;real enthusiastic.

BP: HAS THAT BEEN THE SITUATION IN MOST OTHER TOWNS? OR HAVE THERE BEEN PROBLEMS?

DT: The only place we had problems was at a place were we usually do well. That was the Channel Club in Boston. We usually sell it out,but it was a Monday night,and nobody's got any money. But so far (the tour) has been going really well. Except we just haven't played many places where it's been all ages,which is very important for us to do.

BP: WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO FORM A BAND?

DT: We started at school. We were just a crazy bunch of kids that wanted to do something. None of us could play. We developed our music and writing abilities,and played to all our mates,and eventually got quite a lot of people coming to our shows.

BP: WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO PLAY SKA,AS OPPOSED TO ROCK OR WHATEVER ELSE WAS PLAYING?

DT: Well,that was 1976,and most people were in punk rock bands. We wanted to play Ska and R&B just to be different from them. Plus,it was the music we grew up with as children.

BP: CHANGING THE SUBJECT RADICALLY,DO YOU STILL HAVE PROBLEMS WITH NAZIS AT YOUR SHOWS?

DT: No,they don't cause too many problems. The last time we saw evidence of racists trying to stop a Bad Manners show was in Barcelona. Seig Heilers in flights with swastikas. It's very acceptable to be right-wing in Spain. Franco sort of built the country to where it is today,so everybody gives him loads of praise. I think he was a bastard.

BP: WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR BAD MANNERS?

DT: I've got about 4 lps under my belt at the moment,and we was gonna release them all this year. But I've gotten into lots of problems with banks and distributors and...I might be leaving Britain soon.

BP: WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO MOVE?

DT: Due to taxes and V.A.T.'s. The British government is

really hard on taxes. All the small businesses have been stifled by inflation. It's a false economy and has been for quite some time. Everyone went out and spent loads of money,and now everyone's in debt up to their ass!

BP: IF YOU LEFT BRITAIN,WHERE WOULD YOU GO?

DT: Probably Germany or the West Coast.

BP: THANKS FOR YOUR TIME!

DT: Don't mention it. Cheers!

HERE'S BUSTER AND THE GUYS--BAD MANNERS IN ACTION!!

Bad times good for ska band Bad Manners

"I've been wonderin' just why our music ain't played all that much in Chicago," said Buster Bloodvessel, a.k.a. Doug Trendle, the 19-stone, bald-headed leader of the British ska band Bad Manners. "And you got a depression over here, too. Bad times and our style of music just seem to go hand in hand."

Formed with restless schoolmates in North London, Bloodvessel's band was part of the British ska revival of the early '80s. With Selector, the Specials and—those other "nutty boys"—Madness, Bad Manners shook much of Europe to a different beat.

"Ska is music of the offbeat," Bloodvessel said. "It was mined by the poor in Jamaica, but you can find it in much of the world's traditional musics. Listen close—the name 'ska' came from the very sound that the drummer in the band makes with his high-hat [cymbals]. 'Ska-ska-ska . . .' "

Bloodvessel, known for his raucous enthusiasm, photogenic stunts and his uninhibited performances in tutu or can-can skirt and Doc Marten boots, will perform with his band Wednesday at the Lounge Ax, 2438 N. Lincoln.

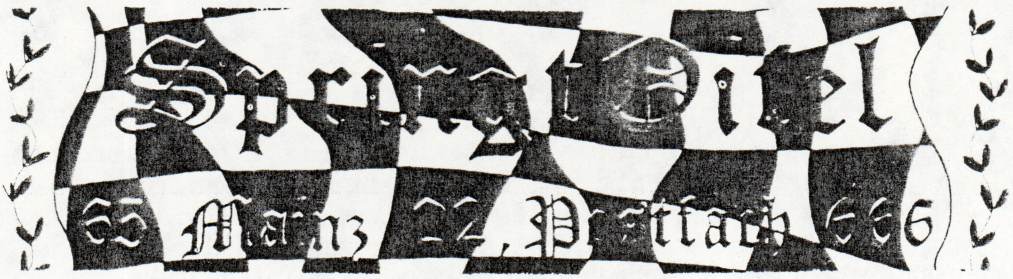
The band's parade of homeland hits began with "Ne-Ne Na-Na Na-Na Nu-Nu." "Oh, it's so hard to be down with a song like that around," said Bloodvessel. Nevertheless, the chartings stopped in 1983, as did the careers

Along with Selector, the Specials and Madness, Bad Manners (above) was part of the British ska revival of the early '80s.

of many the band's competitors. "We never stopped and never had to," he said. "There's always been enough people around who haven't wanted to be depressed.

"If you've been in the doldrums of late and ain't got the money you need, and things aren't feelin' as clear as they once did, then lump yourself together and come [to the club]. You'll have a bloody good night. We're not about to let you set about bein' blue."

Wayne Jancik



THE SPRINGTOIFEL
Interview by Perry with The Boys
Typed By Mari Crespo! Cheers,Mari!

BP: **WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT LINE-UP? PLEASE GIVE A BRIEF BAND HISTORY.**

SP: At the moment we are four boys and we hope that the line-up won't change for the next time, because it's always difficult and boring to introduce a new member of the band in playing all of our songs.

The line-up: Michel -drums Paule-bass guitar & back vocals
Dim-guitar & back vocals Olaf-vocals & organ

It's very difficult to tell the history of our bands in a few sentences. Please look into the little zine, that's a short summary of our last ten years (Ten years after!) It's written in German, we had to do it every day by answering foreign letters and interviews. Okay?

BP: **HOW MANY RECORDS HAVE YOU RELEASED? WHICH ONE DO YOU THINK IS THE BEST?**

SP: We released 5 LP's, 1 single and we have three songs on two compilitation records. You could find all our records and tapes on the last side of the story-zine under the title "Veroffentlichungen". We think the last record is the best, of course! It was very difficult to release it, because some burglars stole our equipment two months before the recording date. That happened in the middle of November in 1990. All instruments were sold- it was a short while to Christmas- and so we had to wait to the end of January for the next sessions. In the end of February, we recorded the LP and we were satisfied with it. That was an example for dirty bastards who stole our instruments and a lesson in solving problems and we could say (a little bit proud) Nobody is able to stop us!

BP: **DO YOU GIG OFTEN? IS IT HARD FOR YOU TO FIND VENUES TO PLAY AT?**

SP: No! That's one of the greatest problems, perhaps the greatest. The most gigs are in little pubs or in rooms for the youth, but most gigs don't start. Often you get a phone call one day before the day of the concert and they say that they can't accept the concert with an Oi! band or other nonsense like that. Last year we had one gig and this year we had till now two gigs. 100% increasing-wow! In former times we had 6...10 gigs a year or more! let the good times roll!

BP: **WHAT IS THE SKINHEAD SCENE LIKE IN YOUR TOWN? ARE THERE ANY OTHER BANDS IN THE AREA?**

SP: In our town there are only a few Skins. You can't call it much of a scene. Most people are friends with us, but there are many other guys like Scooter- and Boot-Boys/Girls who are very funny! There's no barrier between all the people because Mainz in such a small town and we've not many droogs. In bigger cities are more problems between the different groups-we hate big cities! In the near area of Mainz is Frankfurt. From there are the "Bose Onkels." Do you know them? They were Skinheads, but now they smelt the big business and so they play a kind of Heavy Metal. It's a little bit like Rose Tattoo from Australia. The next Oi! group is a hundred kilometers away it's Boots and Braces (near Stuutgart), then Beck's Pistols from Duisburg and Daily Terror from Braunschweig. Nothing more. The other bands are always political bands-the most of them are right wing or Nazis.

BP: **THERE SEEMS TO BE A LARGE NUMBER OF NEW SKINHEADS AND BANDS IN GERMANY, DO YOU THINK THIS GROWTH HAS BEEN GOOD OR BAD?**

SP: We think that's bad for the movement. The most are political scum and they are only Nazis with short hair and without brain. They make the most trouble and one year later they are brave boys of their party or Hooligans or something else. It's only a fashion form most of the people, not all, but most!

BP: **WHO ARE SOME OF YOUR INFLUENCES?**

SP: Another difficult question! There are very many influences-not only Oi! and Punk. You could describe it as a mixture of Classic, Oi! (of course), Punk, Crossover, Hardcore, Folk, SKA and so on and so on.....

BP: **WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ON REUNIFICATION? HAS IT IMPROVED THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THE GERMAN PEOPLE?**

SP: We are all supporters of the reunification, that's no question. For the people in the eastern part it's now a new life of freedom. Their power has beaten the red tyrants-the communist dictators. For the people in the western part it's only a financial problem, nothing more. When the wall fell, many factories in the East had to be closed. Waves of unemployed workers came to the West to find a job. There's enough work for all, but not enough flats where you can live. The rate of emigrants and foreigners was the highest this year than any year before. This mixture is very dangerous and we will see what kind of ways the future will go. Only a fool doesn't recognize the markers of the storm...but politicians are fools!

BP: **ARE THERE ANY UP AND COMING GERMAN BANDS THAT YOU FEEL ARE WORTH A MENTION?**

SP: Only one-the Beck's Pistols. It's a kind of Oi! music with funny lyrics, about drinking and an important reason-"without politics!!!" They came from Duisburg and their vocalist is an old Skinhead who knows the scene very well. He's doing a zine with the name "Scumfuck Tradition".

Address: Scumfuck Tradition
c/o Willi Wucher Schmitz
Am Beeckbach 29
W-4100 Duisburg 12

BP: **I'VE HEARD THAT THERE IS A LOT OF SKINHEAD RELATED VIOLENCE IN THE EX-DDR. DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE MOVEMENT THERE?**

SP: The movement in the east of Germany (they call it "Mitteldeutschland) is mixed like everywhere. You could find Redskins, S.H.A.R.P's, Nazis, normal Skins (like us). In some areas, the right wing parties like FAP or other extreme groups have many supporters. They prefer areas with many unemployed people for preparing riots. What would you do if you were an unexperienced guy of the eastern part? One year freedom, fall of the wall, losing your job, emigrants in your neighborhood with a flat, you have no flat and then comes a politician and says what he can't understand the riots. Whose the fool? The politician of course. It's his job to solve problems but looking a few years forward and not when the streets are burning! Another reason for the violence is the vacuum of law and order. 45 years it wasn't allowed to say your opinion and then from one day to another, all rules are changed. The old system was gone, but the violence they gave to the people wasn't forgotten. The crowds don't want to give back their new rights they've gotten and so they reacted a little bit more sensibly than the people in the West, because we've been satisfied for many years....

BP: **WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF FANZINES?**

SP: We have normally a good opinion of fanzines, but we dislike political flyers, red or brown that's the same shit for us. We don't want to be used for political or personal aims of assholes. We

don't need them. But back to the fanzines. It's a very important kind for getting some news of unknown bands, concerts and last but not least the scenes in other towns or countries. We are supporters of fanzines and we buy a lot of them, but the most are from Germany.

BP: **DO YOU HAVE ANY MERCHANDISE FOR SALE?**

SP: Look at the "Preisliste", please.

BP: **ANY CLOSING COMMENTS?**

SP: Many greetings to all our supporters in the whole world. Since a few weeks we have some friends in Hawaii (Honolulu), that's the longest way for our postage till now. An important point of view we forgot. We are all football supporters (for Americans: soccer; that's a game with two teams and both of them have 11 players and they want to kick a leather ball into a big goal. Very easy, isn't it?!) of Mainz 05 and the national football team of Doitschland!!! World Cup 1990 and World Cup 1994

HOOLIGANS IN DISNEYLAND (a fresh new song)

Another important message: We are only a hobby band. All the money we earn with the music (earning money??) we use for paying our education, room, insurance, printing posters, badges, t-shirts, recording studio and for organizing the famous SpringtOifel-beer-can-party where we invite 100...200 friends and then we drink beer-only German beer is allowed, obtaining the law of the ingredients of beer, friends out of USA! Every invited person has to pay 6 cans of beer as a kind of entrance tax. The band pays 666 cans and sometimes organizes a barbecue. The reason for this party is the appearing of a new record and that's nearly every year....Cheers!!!

SPRINGTOIFEL is (from left to right):

Paule

Michel

Dim

Olaf

STORMWATCH
Interview by Perry with Jeff

BP: WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT LINE-UP? COULD YOU GIVE A BRIEF BAND HISTORY?

SW: The current line-up is me on vocals,Don on guitar,Tim on guitar,Lloyd on bass,and Don's brother Matt is a temporary fill-in on drums. We started 8 or so months ago, then we parted ways with our original bassist Scott. Matt (who was our original drummer) left,then we got Joe on drums but he didn't work out. So Matt will be playing with us until we find somebody permanent.

BP: HOW MANY GIGS HAVE YOU PLAYED?

SW: As of yet,none. All the old clubs in Deleware have either shut down or changed their formats.We were supposed to play a few parties,but something always fell through. We have a couple of out of state shows lined up in January and February so look out for us.

BP: WHAT IS THE SKIN SCENE LIKE IN YOUR AREA?

SW: Basically just a bunch of working-class drunks. Not everyone dresses in the Skinhead uniform,not everyone is into exactly the same type of music,not everyone has exactly thesame views,but everyone has unity and we look out for one another.

BP: HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR SOUND?

SW: I call it good time sing-a-long Skinhead Rock n' Roll!! We're not a political band and we're not a non-political band. We try to give you the best of both worlds.In life you can't have business without pleasure. As for our overall sound it varies on each track,so it's tough to give a comparison.

BP: WHO ARE SOME OF YOUR INFLUENCES, FAVE BANDS?

SW: From a British stand point I'd say Last Resort,Blitz,The Oppressed,Brutal Attack,Skrewdriver,Condemned 84,I could go on forever. It's tough to draw influences from American bands because many American bands I like are the Midtown Bootboys, Arresting Officers, Bully Boys, Niblick Henbane, Those Unknown, the Press, YDL and alot of others.

BP: WHAT ARE SOME OF THE TOPICS YOU SING ABOUT IN YOUR SONGS?

SW: ther's good time fun songs like "Theme Song" which is about a typical night on the town. There's a song about people who try to cop hand-outs which is "Nothing Is Free". There's an anti-fag song called "Stay in the Closet". Ther's a song about the movement and all it's changesover the years,which is "Skinhead Rock n' Roll". As well as 4 other songs that will appear on the demo.

BP: HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE BANDS POLITICAL VIEWS?

SW: We don't stand anywhere politically. We don't label beliefs. We have views on different subjects and we don't like to be placed in any category. We just call ourselves Skinheads and if people want to label us as a certain type,then that's their choice,I suppose. We'll give respect to anyone and their beliefs as long as they show us the same respect.

BP: ARE THE SKINHEADS IN YOUR AREA UNITED,OR ARE THEY IN CONFLICT?

SW: Yeah, the Skins are pretty much united. It's not like we round up every single one

and always hang out,but when we talk everyone is pretty much on good terms. Long time friendships come before beliefs. I don't consider myself a racist,but some old friends have turned that way. I respect their opinions and they respect mine. There's no reason to fight. What does it accomplish? I'm not gonna turn my back on people that have been brothers for years.

BP: ARE THERE MANY WOMEN INVOLVED IN THE SKINHEAD MOVEMENT WHERE YOU LIVE? IS SEXISM A PROBLEM?

SW: The women come and go more than the men do. There's more punk chicks than anything around here. I rarely see girls with fringes anymore. All of the girls that are into the movement look normal;they wear Docs,flights,etc...and mainly listen to Ska. As for sexism,if a girl's intelligent and knows what's up,then it doesn't exist. If a girl acts like a bimbo,then that's exactly how she'll be treated.

BP: DO YOU HAVE ANY BAND MERCHANDISE FOR SALE?

SW: Sometime in January '92 our demo will finally be out. Ther will be 8 songs on it and we'll be asking $4 for it. We're currently in the process of making up shirts so they'll be out shortly.

BP: WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS?

SW: Hopefully keep making music,do an album,and be around for a long time to come and keep meeting new people.

BP: ANY CLOSING COMMENTS?

SW: Thanks to Perry and all at Boot Party for the interview and for being true to yourselves. To all the Skinheads out there... whatever happened to brotherhood? Wise up and stop the stupid fighting. It's not hurting anyone except yourselves. Anyone interested in the band,or just writing,contact me at this address.

STORMWATCH
P.O. BOX 737
NEWARK DE.
19715-0737

STORMWATCH is (from left to right):
Jeff
Tim
Don
Lloyd

THE WRETCHED ONES

What is your current line-up? Could you give a brief band history?

Our line-up is: BT, guitar, Bob, bass, Mike, drums, Pit, vocals. Eon, our other guitar player, just retired from music, so we will stick with the 4-man band, just like SHAM 69 and THE RAMONES. We formed in November '88. After all of us were just kicking around for a bit, BT was in THE BURNT and was idle at the time. Pit was in THE BURNT then went on to play bass for NIBLICK HENBANE for a year. Eon's band, THE WRETCHED, was falling apart so somehow we wanted to get going again.

How often do you play? What type of audience do you draw?

We play at least once a month. We've played NJ, NY and CT so far. We have lots of offers to play all up and down the East Coast, but work schedules have stopped us so far. We've played at least 100 shows. We get your usual mix of alternative types. Lots of skins, punks, and regular working guys who can relate to our lyrics.

How would you describe your sound? Who are your influences?

We play a heavy Oi! Punk sound. No Hardcore. Some songs are total Oi!, some are classic Punk. But really there's not much difference. Fans of one type usually like the other. We are old guys, 3 of us are in our 30's, and we saw the whole Punk explosion first hand from '77 on. That gives us the edge I think. The music is in your blood. We like so many bands, it's hard to list them, but especially THE RAMONES, SHAM, REJECTS, 999, UK SUBS, ANTI-NOWHERE LEAGUE. Lately we like the angrier stuff, not the poseur shit.

What are your hobbies and jobs besides the band?

Ah, let's see. We like to drink, drink, and drink. Music is our hobby, and takes up most spare time, when we don't have to work. Bob and BT are into electronics, Pit is an electrician, Mike mixes chemicals, Eon was a phone man. We fucking love to play live. That's where it's at, man.

Tell us about your EP on Headache Records.

Our first EP was "Old, Loud and Snotty". This record is sold out. It's 4 songs about girls, beer and school. Basically an "I hate you" record. Lots of guitar. Made to be played loud. Next we released a 6-inch hard vinyl single, "Going Down the Bar". Our best drinking song and a favorite at shows. Very Oi! sounding with a nod to SHAM 69's "Hurry Up Harry". Also sold out. Our third record on the Dionysus label from California is a repressing of the 6-inch record remixed, with a third song added. Probably still available. Our newest EP is "America's Most Wanted" on Headache. It's 4 songs about crime and corruption, and heavy as hell, we think. Total Oi! Punk. First pressing on splattered vinyl, sold out. Second pressing on clear, still available. The skins love this record, judging by the mail feedback on it.

Are there any other Oi! bands in your area?

Yes, there's NIBLICK HENBANE who rule. They are NJ's first Oi! band, going for about 5 years now. They've had some personnel changes over the years, but always come on stronger. We've played with them more times than either band can count. Also newer and the most Oi! of all these days are THOSE UNKNOWN. They've got a great batch of tunes right now and are picking up steam. Both bands have new 7-inches out on Headache Records. Also there's THE RADICTS from NYC who have a touch of Oi! in their Punk set. Right now in our area, we've got a total resurgence in the old Punk sound, as Hardcore drifts into Metal.

Even though you aren't a "skin" band, what are your views on the skinhead scene in your area?

There are quite a few skins around and we've had absolutely no problems with them. The whole skin hype is such bullshit, and most skin violence is aimed at other skins it seems. Like who hangs out with who, who said what, etc. At shows, if an asshole skin fucks up, he will be run out by other skins. As far as THE WRETCHED ONES go, we think one reason we are liked by the skins beside the music of course, is that they don't have to judge us on a skin level. That sounds fucked up, but we don't deal with any of that bullshit. Our message is total working class, and that's it. We're a working man's band.

Do you have any merchandise for sale?

Yes, "America's Most Wanted" EP, $3.00 to Headache Records, (see address below), and we sell shirts. Write Headache for designs.

What are your future plans?

We plan on playing some new places and putting out a full length LP/CD. Some of our strongest stuff has never been recorded, so we'll get with that.

Any closing comments?

Don't be a poseur. Be who you are. Anybody can go out and buy a new punk or skin outfit. It doesn't mean shit.

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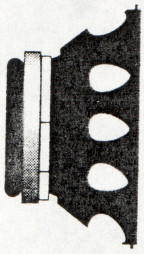

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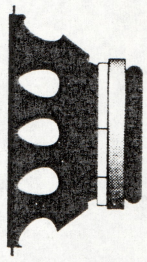

AGNOSTIC FRONT-"One Voice" CD (Relativity)

Finally, AGNOSTIC FRONT are back with a new LP and the result is stunning. This record rocks from start to finish. Crisp clear production, tight playing, and Roger's most intense vocal work to date make this a N.Y.H.C. classic. Great lyrics also. (Perry)

THE ROGUES-"Zero Street" CD (Force Majeure/Rock-O-Rama)

This is the first of a series of joint releases between Michigan's Force Majeure Records and Germany's Rock-O-Rama label. It's loaded with raucous Oi!/Street Punk with excellent lyrics that any sussed skin should be able to relate to. It contains songs from their EP plus new ones that hit like a fist. The title track is an especially powerful portrait of life in the once great "Motor City". Highly recommended. (Perry)

MURPHY'S LAW-"The Best Of Times" CD (Relativity)

The boys from Queens are back with a new slab. It's a lot more ska than usual but has a couple of rockers such as "Did You Play War?", "Harder Than Who", and "Beer Bath". The lyrics deal with the usual topics, namely partying. The promo copy comes with a bonus song; a ripping version of "Monster Mash". All in all, it's not bad. (Shane)

THE BUSINESS-"1979-1989" LP (Blackout)

This is a limited edition (2000 pressed) "Best Of" collection of songs from their earlier releases. It sounds great remixed and it's on red vinyl for you collectors. It's not a must if you have the original recordings, but for those poor souls who don't, get it! (Shane)

RIVAL-"LP" (Force Majeure/Rock-O-Rama)

This Detroit band contains former members of THE ROGUES and A.L.D. Because of this, I had high hopes for this LP, but instead I was disappointed. The biggest drawback is the quality of the recording. Side one is muddy and of demo tape quality. Side two is better produced and is the better of the two. The music is decent but not outstanding, and the lyrics are simplistic. Not my cup of tea. (Perry)

STRAW DOGS-"Dead On Arrival" 7in. (Hammer)

Excellent single by this new British band. Fast, raw, exciting music which reminds me of GUTTERSNIPE ARMY with a buzzsaw guitar sound and deep vocals. This band has been receiving a lot of attention lately and will definitely be going places. Let's hear more. (Perry)

THE RADICTS-"Rebel Sound" LP (Noiseville)

This record is comprised of songs from their split LP with THE PRESS, comp tracks, demo tracks plus two new songs. If you have ever heard and/or seen THE RADICTS, you know they dig THE CLASH a lot. This record is well produced and has a good sleeve layout. Not all tunes are outstanding, but it is a good thing to own if you don't have any of their stuff yet. $8.50 ppd from Noiseville Records, PO Box 124, Yonkers, NY, 10710. (Shane)

THOSE UNKNOWN- 7in. EP (Headache)

This is the debut vinyl offering from this young New Jersey band. It contains 4 songs of basic Oi! with that early 80's feel. You can tell they're a new band, but they seem to have potential. (Perry)

THE SCOFFLAWS- Cassette (Moon)

If you're all ska'd out, this is the tape for you. Great production, tight sound, and unique arrangements with a definite jazz influence. My favorites: "Shot In the Dark", and "Pee Wee's Big Adventure", no shit. CD has 2 bonus tracks. This month's favorite. (A.C.)

DEMO REVIEWS

ETCH-A-SKETCH- 6 song tape

This Ska outfit from Michigan has been around for some time and it's about time they got more recognition. They hold their own with many of the better known U.S. Ska bands. They play a mixture of slow and up-tempo Ska tunes with good arrangements and tight musicianship. A band to watch. (Perry)

STORMWATCH- 8-song tape

This new band from Delaware could be the next big thing in U.S. Oi! if they keep at it. This sounds like THE LAST RESORT with a slightly harder sound. Intense lyrics also. Somebody sign these guys. (Perry)

THE INVADERS-"Skank Tank" (Maxtone)

I just received this tape and I think it's great. The instrumentation is excellent. These guys are actual musicians, not fakes shamming their way through a set. The horn solos are jazzy and sweet. The whole band is tight as hell and are worth checking out. (Marco)

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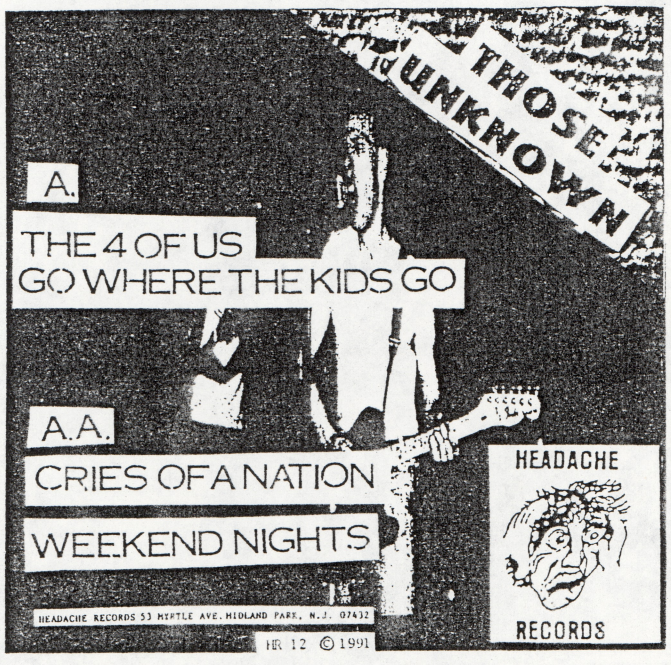

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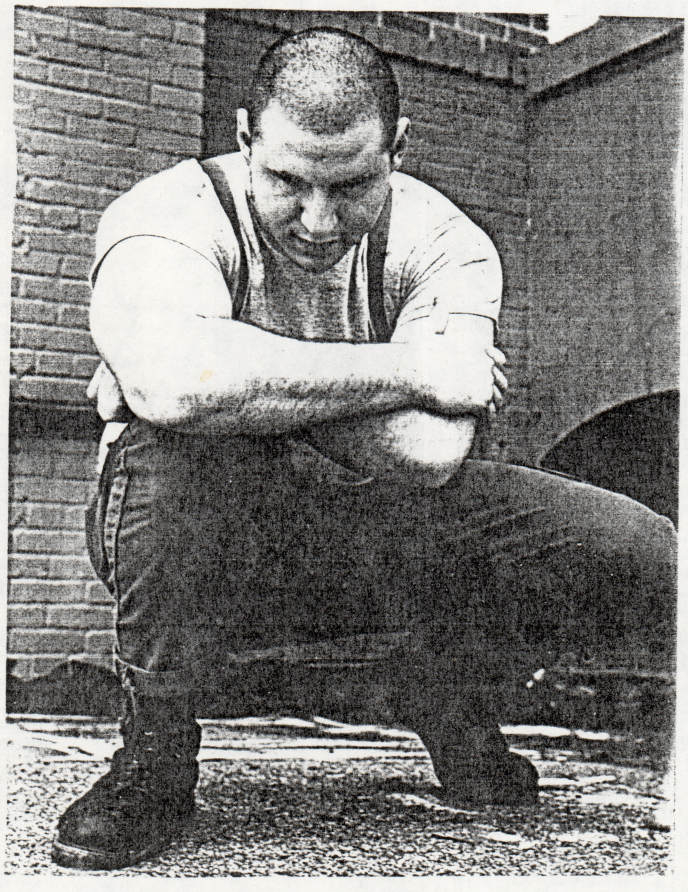

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